



The mission of San Antonio Fighting Back is to provide partnerships, collaborations and direct services to create safe, healthy and caring communities by addressing the root causes and symptoms of drug related crime, substance abuse, victimization and violence.

April Newsletter 2009



**Above:** SAPD Officer Steven Christian speaks to Wetmore 5th graders about underage drinking.

**Below:** Rachel Penado gives a Reach Out Now presentation to Mission Academy 5th grade students.



### **Reach Out Now - Prevent Underage Alcohol Use:**

San Antonio Fighting Back, Inc. (SAFB) took part in the 2009 National Reach Out Now Teach-In (RONTI) – an underage drinking prevention program for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention sponsors the program. SAFB conducted RONTI presentations at Wetmore Elementary on the city's northeast side and Mission Academy on the south side of town. Rachel Penado, SAFB Youth Coordinator, along with SAPD officers Gerald Tyler and Steve Christian, spoke to students about making smart and healthy choices in their future. Students who answered alcohol prevention questions correctly were awarded prizes that promote alternative activities to drinking alcohol, such as playing football, drawing, and working on science projects. The students also created their own bookmarkers. One of the bookmarks read, "I'm not ruining my life by drinking!"

### **Graffiti Clean Up:**

AmeriCorps Learn & Serve Volunteers from Our Lady of the Lake University helped clean up graffiti in the SAFB Weed & Seed Lincoln Heights/West end area.



### **8<sup>th</sup> Graders Develop Media Campaign:**

The SAFB Youth Crime Watch program at Harlandale Middle School received a \$500 mini-grant to complete an underage drinking outreach program. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are currently developing their own website, PSAs, and t-shirts to help get the word out about the dangers of underage drinking. Two of the PSAs will be featured at the National Youth Crime Prevention Conference in Orlando, Florida, April 19-23. The PSAs will also be featured latter this month on the SAFB web site.



YCW Harlandale Middle School students gather to plan a multi-media marketing campaign on preventing underage drinking.



L to R: Linda Tippins, SAFB Board Chairman Willie Mitchell and his wife, Sheralin.

**SAFB Director Receives Award:**

Linda Tippins, Executive Director of SAFB, was honored on March 21<sup>st</sup> with the "Friends of Sam Houston" award for her dedication and years of service to the causes of the community and its children.



**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**



**First Annual Willie Mitchell Golf Tournament**

benefiting San Antonio Fighting Back, Inc.  
**June 6, 2009**  
**Willow Springs Golf Course**

**202 AT & T Parkway, San Antonio, TX**  
Register on-line at [www.safb.org](http://www.safb.org). Limited to 36 teams!

**UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATE!**



**"Remove the Mask" Youth Conference**

**July 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> FREE EVENT**

**Education Service Center, Region 20**

1314 Hines Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78208

Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Saturday night 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. dance and youth performances at the Claude Black Center  
For registration, sponsorship or more information please contact Jackie Speights at [jspeights@safb.org](mailto:jspeights@safb.org) or call 210-271-7232, ext. 301



**3rd Annual 3K Recovery Walk SA & Family Fun Day**

FREE EVENT with Nature Trail Walk, Prizes & Free Food!

**Saturday, September 12, 2009**

**10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

at Koehler Pavilion in Brackenridge Park

on-line registration available in July at [www.safb.org](http://www.safb.org)

# THE PARTNERSHIP



## Advice on Parenting Teens: Be a Parent, Not a Pal

Some parents try too hard to be their kid's friend and even go so far as to smoke or drink with them, or try to impress them with stories of past drug and alcohol use. That behavior gives kids harmful, unhealthy messages. Parents should only fill kids in on their own drug or alcohol past if there's a lesson to be learned from the story. While they don't always show it, teens need and want boundaries. For more information log on to [www.drugfree.org/Parent/ConnectingWithYourKids/](http://www.drugfree.org/Parent/ConnectingWithYourKids/).

### **Contact us:**

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